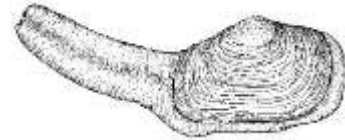

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



Cora Campbell, Commissioner
Jeff Regnart, Director



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Sitka Area Office
304 Lake Street, Rm. 103
Sitka, Alaska 99835
Date: September 24, 2012
Time: 4:00 p.m.

SOUTHEAST ALASKA GEODUCK CLAM FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

Sitka. . . The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announced today, the following information regarding the Southeast Alaska commercial geoduck clam fishery.

The following area will be open to the commercial harvesting of geoduck clams for live sale from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Wednesday, September 26, and from 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Friday, September 28, 2012:

District 13:

Symonds Bay (Subdistrict 113-31-002): will be open for a guideline harvest level of 3,200 pounds of whole geoduck clams.

The following areas will be open to the commercial harvesting of geoduck clams for live sale, **with a 430 pound limit per diver**, from 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Friday, September 28, 2012:

District 13:

Elovai, Golf, and Gornoi Islands area (Subdistrict 113-31-005): will open for a guideline harvest level of 1,200 pounds of whole geoduck clams;

Taigud and Kolosh Islands Area (Subdistricts 113-31-004, 113-41-004): will be open for a guideline harvest level of 1,400 pounds of whole geoduck clams.

Descriptions of the above areas can be found in the News Release dated August 23, 2012.

Geoduck divers are advised to review 5 AAC 38.142. SOUTHEAST ALASKA GEODUCK FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN in the 2012-2015 Commercial Shellfish Fishing Regulations booklet.

By regulation, all geoducks harvested must be clearly labeled with the date of harvest, the harvester's name, and the location of harvest.

These are the last scheduled geoduck openings for the 2011-12 season. The NOAA marine forecast suggests a strong weather front moving thru the Sitka Area late this week. If fishing is not possible during some of the times listed above, additional time may be allowed on Saturday, September 29, 2012. If additional time is necessary, a News Release will be issued the morning of September 28, 2012.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1M1312.

News releases web site: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>.

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|------------------|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <i>ADF&G</i> | <i>225-5195</i> | <i>772-3801</i> | <i>874-3822</i> | <i>747-6688</i> | <i>465-4250</i> | <i>766-2830</i> | <i>784-3255</i> |
| <i>AWT</i> | <i>225-5111</i> | <i>772-3983</i> | <i>874-3215</i> | <i>747-3254</i> | <i>465-4000</i> | <i>766-2533</i> | <i>784-3220</i> |